

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2022 REGULAR SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 4406**

BY DELEGATES CONLEY, COOPER, LONGANACRE,

BARNHART, J. KELLY, ANDERSON, TONEY, MCGEEHAN,

REYNOLDS, MANDT, AND LINVILLE

[Passed March 9, 2022; in effect ninety days from passage.]



1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,  
2 designated §9A-5-1, relating to creating a West Virginia Military Hall of Fame to honor  
3 veterans of West Virginia who have distinguished themselves on the field of battle.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 5. WEST VIRGINIA MILITARY HALL OF FAME.**

**§9A-5-1. West Virginia Military Hall of Fame.**

1 (a)(1) The secretary shall create a West Virginia Military Hall of Fame with the mission to  
2 honor veterans of West Virginia who have distinguished themselves on the field of battle and who  
3 have also made significant contributions to the state or their communities following their military  
4 service. The honorees must:

5 (A) Have been honorably discharged or separated under honorable conditions from the  
6 Armed Forces of the United States and be of good moral character; and

7 (B) Be natural born citizens of West Virginia; or

8 (C) Entered into or have been discharged from the Armed Forces in West Virginia; or

9 (D) Have resided in West Virginia for at least 8 years.

10 (2) Nominations shall include a nomination form approved by the secretary, a DD214 or  
11 other supporting Department of Defense personnel records, or national or state archive records  
12 substantiating the nominee's military service, and a copy of any citation received, including any  
13 supporting documentation.

14 (b) In order to be considered, a nominee must have been awarded any of the following  
15 during his or her time in service:

16 (1) Medal of Honor;

17 (2) Army Distinguished Service Cross;

18 (3) Navy Cross;

19 (4) Air Force Cross;

20 (5) Coast Guard Cross;

- 21 (6) Silver Star;
- 22 (7) Distinguished Flying Cross;
- 23 (8) Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device;
- 24 (9) Air Medal with "V" Device;
- 25 (10) Commendation Medal With "V" Device;
- 26 (11) Joint Service Achievement Medal With "V" Device; or
- 27 (12) Purple Heart.

28 (c) There shall be created the West Virginia Military Hall of Fame Board consisting of  
29 seven members who shall be residents of this state and who have served in and been honorably  
30 discharged or separated under honorable conditions from the Armed Forces of the United States.  
31 In addition to the seven members of the board, the secretary shall be an *ex officio* member and  
32 shall serve as its chair.

33 (d) Where feasible, members of the board shall be veterans who are active in the veteran  
34 community, with consideration given to ensure a diverse representation of service branches in  
35 board membership. Additionally, no more than four members shall be from the same  
36 congressional district.

37 (e) The secretary shall promulgate rules for legislative approval in accordance with §29A-  
38 3-1 *et seq.* of this code to implement the purpose and mission of the Military Hall of Fame.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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*Chairman, House Committee*

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*Chairman, Senate Committee*

Originating in the House.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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*Clerk of the House of Delegates*

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*Clerk of the Senate*

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*Speaker of the House of Delegates*

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*President of the Senate*

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The within ..... this the.....  
day of ....., 2022.

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*Governor*